

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 4, lines 2-13, please replace the text with the following paragraph:

§1 The present invention is based, at least in part, on the discovery of a novel gene encoding a novel human protein, having sequence homologies with known angiotensin converting enzymes (ACEs). Thus, the newly identified proteins and nucleic acids described herein are referred to as "angiotensin converting enzyme-2" or "ACE-2". The human ACE-2 gene transcript is shown in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO:1) and includes 5' and 3' untranslated regions and a 2415 base pair open reading frame (SEQ ID NO:3) encoding an 805 amino acid polypeptide having SEQ ID NO:2. The mature protein, i.e., the full length protein without the signal sequence is comprised of about 787 amino acids. ACE-2 is expressed predominantly in kidney and testis. A nucleic acid comprising the cDNA encoding the full length human ACE-2 polypeptide has been deposited at the American Type Culture Collection ([12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD] 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110-2209) on December 3, 1997 has been assigned ATCC Designation No. 209510.

At page 13, lines 15-29, please replace the text with the following paragraph:

§2 The invention is based at least in part on the discovery of a gene encoding a protein having regions which are significantly homologous to regions of known angiotensin converting enzymes (ACEs). Thus, the genes and proteins disclosed herein are referred to as Angiotensin Converting Enzyme 2 (ACE-2) genes and proteins. The sequence of the full length cDNA encoding ACE-2 was determined from a clone obtained from a cDNA library prepared from mRNA of a human heart of a subject who had congestive heart failure. The cDNA encoding the full length human ACE-2 protein and comprising 5' and 3' untranslated regions is 3396 nucleotides long and has the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 1 and is set forth as SEQ ID NO:1. The full length human ACE-2 protein is 805 amino acids long and has the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 1 and set forth in SEQ ID NO:2. The coding portion (open reading frame) of SEQ ID NO:1 is set forth as SEQ ID NO:3 and corresponds to nucleotides 82 to 2496 of SEQ ID NO:1. The cDNA encoding the full length ACE-2 protein has been deposited at the American Type Culture Collection ([12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD] 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110-2209) on December 3, 1997 has been assigned ATCC Designation No. 209510.

At page 100, lines 13-23, please replace the text with the following paragraph:

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI1997-035CP3

3
P
The cDNA described herein encoding ACE-2 is 3396 nucleotides long and has the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 1 and set forth in SEQ ID NO:1. A nucleic acid comprising this cDNA has been deposited at the American Type Culture Collection ([12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD] 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110-2209) on December 3, 1997 has been assigned ATCC Designation No. 209510. This cDNA has an open reading frame from nucleotide 82 to nucleotide 2496 of SEQ ID NO:1 which is set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 and encodes a protein of 805 amino acids having the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 1 and set forth in SEQ ID NO:2. The ACE-2 protein having SEQ ID NO:2 contains a hydrophobic signal sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 18. Thus, the mature ACE-2 protein has the amino acid sequence from about amino acid 19 to amino acid 805 of SEQ ID NO:2. The presence of the signal peptide indicates that the ACE-2 protein is secreted and/or membrane bound.
